30 Aug 72

Harold—

I just read Fred Graham's NY Times article of 27 August re Wecht and the autopsy material. It makes at least one thing clear to me that was not clear after I read the short version in the Globe and Mail: the fault is not that of the reporter, for this seems a good and straight article. The fault is Wecht's. I had previously thought him merely under-informed or, at worst, ill informed. Now I think he is simply stupid, and in the very things in which he professes expertise. I think he is beyond the help even of good advisors. I guess that I shall never trust an "expert" again. Give me an honest dilletante any day.

For example, his reason for wanting to examine the brain deflects interest in the most important service that the brain can perform. It would, of course, be worth knowing what the "foreign object" in the brain is (visible in photos, but not in X-rays?), but it may be such a red herring that it is not worth stirring shit over. The brain has to be carefully dissected and the paths of those fragments traced. The brain can serve no better use than that. The paths must be there, and they are traceable.

(over)

The only new thing that I see is the "little flap" on the back left side of JFK's head, just above the hairline. I don't know what to make of it. If it were an exit wound, it would show on head X-rays, which Weicht saw — if not on the lateral X-rays where a hole on the left might, on the film, have merged with the hole on the right, then surely it would show in the A-P view. I wonder what mileage Cyril's "experts" will get out of this.

I wonder what interest Burke Marshall has in whipping critics and in letting blame for the suppression fall on the K family. I think he's a Judas, not working for the Ks' benefit at all. But it would be good to know for whom he is really working.

Dick